



Dear Cayuga-Onondaga Regional Community,

We, the superintendents of the Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES component school districts, are writing to share an important reminder: dangerous substances such as fentanyl and other illicit drugs are present in communities across the country, including our own. While this is not new, it remains a serious and ongoing concern that calls for heightened awareness, open communication, and unwavering support for the safety and well-being of our students.

Our shared purpose is to keep our communities informed, proactive, and united in keeping children safe. We urge families to have open conversations at home about the dangers of substance use and the critical importance of making safe, healthy choices. These conversations can be difficult, but they are vital. As school leaders, we are here to partner with you, not only through classroom education, but through mental health supports, community programs, and by sharing trusted resources.

Below are several resources that may provide assistance, as well as, help guide conversations at home and offer additional support:

- <https://www.chadcounseling.org/>
- <http://www.ongov.net/health/opioids/index.html>
- <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/helplines/national-helpline>
- [https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/tobacco\\_control/campaign/e-cigarette](https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/tobacco_control/campaign/e-cigarette)
- [https://cannabis.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/10/ocm\\_cannabisandfentanyl.pdf](https://cannabis.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/10/ocm_cannabisandfentanyl.pdf)
- [https://oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2024/04/cannabis-toolkit-0\\_0\\_0.pdf](https://oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2024/04/cannabis-toolkit-0_0_0.pdf)

As a community, we share the responsibility of educating, protecting, and empowering our young people. By working together, families, schools, and community partners, we can create safe environments where every child feels supported and valued. Thank you for your continued partnership, your vigilance, and your commitment to the health and well-being of the students we all serve.

Respectfully,

Dr. Misty Slavic, Superintendent  
Auburn Enlarged City School District

Michael Jorgensen, Superintendent  
Port Byron Central School District

Michael Hoose, Superintendent  
Cato-Meridian Central School District

Eric Knuth, Superintendent  
Skaneateles Central School District

James Froio, Superintendent  
Jordan-Elbridge Central School District

Patrick Jensen, Superintendent  
Southern Cayuga Central School District

John Birmingham, Superintendent  
Moravia Central School District

Dr. Jarett Powers, Superintendent  
Union Springs Central School District

Gregory Stone, Superintendent  
Weedsport Central School District

Dr. Brian Hartwell, District Superintendent  
Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES